

Governor's Committee on Children's Services Planning

Working Agenda 1989 - 1990

I. Issues

1. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Epidemic in New Jersey
2. Education
3. Interdepartmental Planning/Coordination
4. Legislation Impacting on Children

II. Priorities and Working Structure

Priority 1: Impact of Statewide Policy and Planning on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic in New Jersey.

Populations: Children, Adolescents, and Women.

Objective:

- Foster improved planning and coordination of the statewide response to HIV Infection;
- Promote the expansion of community based education and prevention services targeted to the most vulnerable families and youth; and
- Monitor, from an "internal advocacy" perspective, the implementation of the HIV-Related Systemic recommendations as identified in the *Action Plan*, the *Health Forum Report*, and the *Final Report of the Pediatric AIDS Advisory Committee*.

Method: Create an Adhoc HIV Intra-Departmental Sub-Committee with representation from the departments of Health, Human Services, Education, Corrections, Community Affairs, the Public Advocate, the Governor's Office and the community.

This is in keeping with:

- A) The recommendations of the *Preliminary Report of the Pediatric AIDS Advisory Committee*: "Development of an interagency committee with representation from the Departments of Health, Human Services, Education, and Corrections and the community. Responsibility would be defined to include ongoing planning and coordination of the statewide response to the problem"; and
- B) The *Action Plan* which recommended the establishment of an Intra-Departmental committee to assure internal coordination of services, avoid duplication of effort, and identify issues impacting on the health status of children and youth.

Purpose: Develop an interagency initiative which may be pursued but not limited as:

Priority 2: Educational issues in New Jersey.

Populations: Children and adolescents.

Goal/Objective: To evaluate the status of educational services to children in New Jersey and address gaps or problems in the provision of these services.

Method: Establish a GCCSP Education Sub-Committee with members of the statewide educational community and representatives of the Departments of Education, Higher Education, Human Services, Corrections, Community Affairs and other relevant departments.

Purpose: Address prioritized problems and bring about possible solutions to problems and gaps in the area of education through cooperation and communication with relevant state departments and the public.

Priority 3: Formation of an Interdepartmental Sub-Committee of the GCCSP that will meet regularly to:

- function in a proactive manner to foster cooperative relationships among divisions and departments;
- serve as a forum to discuss issues of gaps, coordination and planning among agencies as it impacts on children and youth;
- address "problem solving" issues; and
- be called upon to report to the full Committee and provide it with information or recommendations for actions to be taken.

Priority 4: Formation of an Adhoc Legislative Sub-Committee that will:

- review and prioritize legislation impacting on children and youth; and
- clarify at its first meeting the scope of decision-making relative to the endorsement of any legislative initiative, which will be presented to the full Committee for discussion and approval.

III. On-going Work

1. Monitoring of recommendations set forth in Health Forum Report.

2. Clearinghouse:

Having reached an agreement with Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Office of Telecommunications and Information Systems (OTIS) in implementation of the Action Plan recommendation of a Clearinghouse on Children's Services Planning, OMB will be involved in developing a conceptual design for the automated clearinghouse which will consist of four components as agreed by the full Committee.

These components include a service provider data base; a departmental budget data base; departmental program data base and the integration of the legislative tracking mechanism data base.

Once fully developed this clearinghouse should meet the mandate of the recommendation of a clearinghouse as specified in the **Action Plan**. In the interim, the clearinghouse will provide a directory of children's services as well as provide capability to respond to query of incoming calls relative to children's services.

3. **Legislative Tracking Mechanism:** Continue to monitor and track bills affecting children, youth and families.
4. **Other:** Staff will continue their involvement with other bodies and groups as it relates to children and youth. Other issues that the GCCSP has been involved with e.g. mental health and juvenile justice will be addressed through monitoring and on an as needed basis or through the work of other sub-committees.

- A) Formal interagency collaboration and linkage;
- B) A Model Policy Statement;
- C) A "Bill of Rights" for HIV infected children, adolescents, and women;
and/or
- D) A legislative mandate.

Tentative Preliminary Issues to Address

for

The Adhoc HIV Intra-Departmental Sub-Committee of the GCCSP

(Include but not limited to):

- Review and endorse the *Preliminary Report of the Pediatric AIDS Advisory Committee* as well as the *Final Report* (upon publication);
- Assess the role of GCCSP to assist in the implementation of the recommendations of the *Final Report of the Pediatric AIDS Advisory Committee*; and
- Identify a comprehensive and coordinated approach to promote the implementation of the recommendations of the *Final Report of the Pediatric AIDS Advisory Committee* through collaboration with the departments.
- Examine the existing system of services to determine its strengths and limitations in order to propose the most appropriate format for an interagency policy recommendation(s).